human flesh is heir, and all that I can say is that the Government are doing and will do their best.

93. The desirability of sanctioning a grant of Rs. 15 per mensem for the treatment of destitute inpatients in the Punalur Dispensary and the need for repairing the present dispensary building.

Mr. Kanakku Padmanabhan Narayanan (Member, Pattanapuram Taluk) submitted that coolies suffering from malaria, &c., who had to come to Punalur from the neighbouring planting districts were subject to much suffering and inconvenience owing to the want of inpatient accommodation in the Punalur dispensary. He had represented the matter at the Assembly last year when he was told in reply that in the dispensary there was provision for 8 beds for inpatients and that orders would be issued for the entire sum allotted for the purpose being spent for inpatients. On enquiry at the dispensary he was made to understand that no funds had been sanctioned for the purpose. The Member also submitted that the dispensary building was leaky and should be promptly repaired.

Dewan's reply.—There is a provision for 8 beds in the dispensary. There is also an allotment of Rs. 150 for the dispensary contingencies. It is understood that there has been no expenditure under the head of inpatients because none are coming forward. If, as you say, the Medical Officer has said that there was no allotment and that inpatients could not be admitted, the matter will be enquired into by the Darbar Physician. In regard to the repairs to the building in which the dispensary is located, Government will make the necessary arrangements.

94. Need for establishing a Dispensary at Pattanamtitta.

Mr. M. Narayanan Govindan (Member, Pattanamtitta Taluk) said that, though the Dewan had toured almost all over the country, it was a misfortune to the people that he did not visit his taluk. The pakuthies of Pattanamtitta, Omallur, Elanthur, Cherukole and Rani were thickly inhabited, with a population of about a lakh and a half. The people in those localities had absolutely no medical aid and the dispensary at Koni was inaccessible to them, since it was at a distance of from ten to thirty five miles from the above mentioned places. The Member said that a similar representation was made at the last session of the Assembly also and prayed that sanction be given for the establishment of a hospital at Pattanamtitta.

Dewan's reply.—As regards the opening of a dispensary, arrangements will be made for a dispensary being opened at Pattanamtitta from the beginning of 1097. There is a hospital at Kozhenchery which is only a few miles away. The proposal to open a hospital instead of a dispensary at Pattanamtitta cannot therefore be entertained.

95. Vaidyasalas and Patasalas.

Mr. Sankaran Padmanabhan (Member, Karunagapalli Taluk) stated that since the reorganisation of the Ayurveda department in 1093 the people at large had benefited very much and evinced a keen interest and faith in the Ayurvedic system of treatment. As an instance of the great popularity of the Ayurvedic system of treatment, the Member referred to people from distant parts of South India resorting to the Ayurvedic hospital at Trivandrum. In the Member's opinion the usefulness of the department could be considerably enhanced, if certain reforms were introduced in the department, and with that end in view he suggested the following measures for the consideration of Government :—

1. The Ayurvedic hospital should be shifted to a more centrally situated locality with facilities for the admission of a greater number of patients.

2. The pharmacy should be made up-to-date by the introduction of machinery in the preparation of medicines.

3. The medicines so prepared should be distributed free to the poor and sold to the rich.

4. Ayurvedic hospitals and dispensaries should be established in the mofussil.

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5. There should be more Patasalas in the various parts of the country where pupils might undergo training for three years preparatory to their higher studies in the Ayurvedic College at Trivandrum.

6. Proper encouragement should be given to candidates who came out successful from the Ayurveda Patasala at Trivandrum.

7. An area of at least 1,000 acres should be handed over to the Ayurveda department for the cultivation of herbs and medicinal plants.

8. Rare books on Ayurveda, so far as they were available, should be published and new books should be compiled on kindred subjects in the light of modern knowledge.

9. The preparation of a Travancore Ayurvedic Pharmacopia and the standardisation of the Ayurvedic drugs should be arranged for.

10. An Ayurvedic Journal should be published and a wider diffusion of knowledge of Ayurveda among people at large secured by organising magic lantern lectures in the mofussil.

11. Vaidyans should be encouraged to specialise in various departments of Ayurveda so that in times of epidemics those specialists might be of considerable use to the public.

12. Legislation should be introduced to weed out quacks who were a curse to society.

13. More Vishavaidyasalas should be opened, as snake bite was very common in the Karunagapalli taluk. The Member advocated the appointment of a Vishavaidyan for each Desom in the Taluk. He also invited the attention of Government to the fact that leprosy was a common disease in his taluk for which in his opinion the Ayurvedic system of treatment was found to be most effective.

14. The pay of the Director of Ayurveda and the Vaidyan in charge of the Ayurvedic hospital and dispensary should be enhanced and the grants to the Vaidyans should be increased. In the opinion of the Member, the proposed appointment of an Inspector of Vaidyasalas was not going to effect any improvement in the grant-in-aid institutions, unless it was preceded by the increase of grants to Vaidyans most of whom received only a sum of Rs. 10 as grant. After deducting the expenses of stationery, house rent, &c., there was hardly anything left out of the grant for the Vaidyan with which to prepare medicines, &c.

15. The grant to the Patasala at Changankulangara should be raised.

96. Certain suggestions for the imprvement of the Ayurveda Department.

Mr. S. Padmanabha Panickar (Member, Nominated) said that, though 36 years had passed since the establishment of the Ayurveda department, it had not made appreciable progress. In the opinion of the Member, the two most urgent steps that had to be taken were: (1) remedying the defects that had crept into the Ayurvedic system, and (2) popularisation of Ayurveda among people. He first desired to correct the impression formed by Government that Ayurvedic medicines were more costly than allopathic medicines and said that it was incorrect, and that in the experience of the people Ayurvedic treatment and medicines were very much cheaper than English treatment and medicines. He then stated that the Patasala at Trivandrum was not at all run on proper lines. The present curricula of studies were impracticable. The Patasala should be raised to the status of a College under a strong Committee of expert Vaidyans. The Director and Principal should find a place on the Committee which should also be an examining body. Since the Patasala was being shifted very often from place to place and since the hospital and pharmacy were isolated from the Patasala, the pupils could not enjoy the benefit of the institution to the fullest extent

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